



For immediate release

IDOC Offenders Donate to Victims Group

Indianapolis, IN (May 10, 2011) – On Friday, May 6, 2011, the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) presented a check for \$12,340.35 to the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA), during a gala in honor of INCASA's 25th Anniversary. The money was donated through offender fundraisers from 16 IDOC facilities across the state.

On hand to present the check was IDOC Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland. "The Department is proud to support INCASA in their efforts to bring awareness and provide services to victims of sexual violence in Indiana. We are grateful for the opportunity for offenders incarcerated at our facilities to give back to a cause that will directly benefit victims of crime and aid in their healing, as well as to encourage the offenders' rehabilitation," stated Copeland.

The largest monetary donation of \$5,000 came from the Geo Group, a private corporation that manages and operates the New Castle Correctional Facility. In addition to the money donated, the Department also presented a quilt commemorating INCASA's 25th anniversary made by offenders from the PLUS unit at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility.



IDOC Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland presents an offender made quilt to INCASA CEO Anita Carpenter.

"The Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault appreciates the strong collaboration with the Indiana Department of Correction that has been cultivated over the years. The opportunity to take this collaboration to the next level by directly helping victims through the establishment of a fund to provide HIV prophylaxis medication to victims of rape who are at risk of exposure to the virus is quite a testament to the commitment of the IDOC to victim and community safety." stated Anita Carpenter, CEO of INCASA. "What a sincere tribute as well to survivors to have offenders create a beautiful quilt to commemorate INCASA's 25th Anniversary. This quilt is quite a statement of restitution and a testament of hope for the future." said Carpenter.

About INCASA (www.incasa.org)

The Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA) believes that sexual assault is a violent crime of power and domination that can be perpetrated against all persons, and that the healing of victims cannot be separated from the healing of society. INCASA exists to provide education, advocacy, and support to professionals, communities, and survivors regarding sexual violence in Indiana.

About the Indiana Department of Correction

The Department employs over 6,400 employees and houses 28,000 adults and juveniles in 26 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and community re-entry centers. The Department's web page can be found at www.in.gov/idoc.

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